

App. No. 10/773,739

Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as set forth hereinbelow.

1. **(original)** An apparatus for treating metal working fluid, comprising:
a heating vessel for receiving and holding metal-working fluid for treatment;
a heater for heating the metal-working fluid in the heating vessel;
an agitator for agitating the metal-working fluid within the heating vessel;
an aerator for aerating the metal-working fluid within the heating vessel;
a holding vessel for receiving and holding treated metal-working fluid from the heating vessel; and
a de-mister,
wherein:
the agitator and aerator comprise an air flow source and air inlets provided in a bottom portion of the heating vessel so that air flow through the inlets and through the metal-working fluid agitates and aerates the metal-working fluid;
and
the air flow through the metal-working fluid flows out of the heating vessel through the de-mister.
2. **(original)** The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the de-mister comprises a centrifuge impactor.
- 3.-4. **(cancelled)**
5. **(currently amended)** An apparatus for treating metal working fluid, comprising:
a heating vessel for receiving and holding metal-working fluid for treatment;
a heater for heating the metal-working fluid in the heating vessel;
an agitator for agitating the metal-working fluid within the heating vessel;
an aerator for aerating the metal-working fluid within the heating vessel;
a holding vessel for receiving and holding treated metal-working fluid from the heating vessel; and
an ion-exchange filter connected to ~~at least one of the heating vessel and~~ or the holding vessel for reducing a concentration in the metal-working fluid of at least one ~~metal~~, metal.

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6. **(original)** The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein one of the at least one metal is cobalt.
7. **(original)** The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein the ion-exchange filter includes a sulfonated divinyl-benzene-cross-linked polystyrene ion-exchange resin.
8. **(original)** The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein the ion exchange filter is connected to the holding vessel so as to enable recirculation of metal-working fluid from the holding vessel through the ion-exchange filter.

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